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FRANK L. HOOGSMANAGER

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10, 1907

Chinese Assault Priests Of Japan

Assaults upon Christian missionaries in China are not unusual, and in times past have been one of the chief assets of European Powers seeking an excuse for grabbing a parcel of land here and there, but attacks by Chinese upon Japanese priests of a religion common to all the Orient are unusual. Japanese papers do not comment upon the uniqueness of an assault recently committed by Chinese upon Buddhist priests in the province of Kwantung, but, as many Christian organs have been known to do in times past, they clamor for retribution.

At Changtse a Chinese mob recently attacked a Buddhist temple erected and supported by Japanese priests of what is known as the West Hongwan sect of the Buddhistic creed. The Tokio papers say that after the assault the chief priest of the temple, Matsujima Shisei, sent a letter of protest to the district magistrate setting forth in pretty plain terms the amount of the damages both to the temple and to the pride of its priests.

Receiving no answer, the priest went in a litter to the yamen of the magistrate. While he was actually in conversation with that official the Chinese runners and court attendants fell upon him, so the Japanese papers have it, and kicked him brutally. The Chinese official made no move to intervene, and the Buddhist priest had to run for his life.

The Japanese press sets this down as another instance of the growing antipathy against Japanese which is found by them all through China from the high court officials at Peking to the traders at Canton. There was no religious impulse behind the attack on the West Hongwan temple, for although most of the lower class Chinese are devil worshippers and at best devoted to the ancestral worship cult, there still remains a sufficient leaven of Buddhism to prevent any antagonism against the propagation of its teachings.

Bank Deposits And Prosperity

According to a published statement deposits in the United States are now about \$13,000,000,000 and the total amount of currency—paper, silver and gold—is \$2,785,000,000. This immense amount of deposits is a direct result of the prosperity of the people. Were deposits only half as great there would be no shortage of currency.

United States laws require national banks in reserve cities to hold 25 per cent of their deposits in bank to protect their depositors. This is a safe rule, but is impossible of application to all banks, because 25 per cent of the total deposits would amount to \$3,250,000,000, a sum considerably in excess of all the currency in this country, and while currency is used only as the small change of business, payments of large amounts being nearly always made by check or draft, considerable quantities of currency are needed for daily use in small transactions. National banks not in reserve cities and state banks are required to hold a smaller percentage of currency and of course in Illinois and other states where there is no regulation of private banks and bankers they can hold as little as they choose.

Notwithstanding the imperfections in mainland banking laws, the banks have answered their purpose well, except where some banks or coterie of banks have violated the laws (usually that limiting the amount to be loaned to one concern) and good banking practice. The people have accommodated themselves in their manner of carrying on business to conditions as they exist and only occasionally is there any dissatisfaction expressed.

Uncle Sam Wants Sober Employees

Recently, The Saturday Evening Post published two articles on the "drunk evil" in the South and showing the steps taken to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in several states south of Mason & Dixon's line. These articles have been widely read and have created much comment; people who have never been interested in the liquor question are commencing to sit up and take notice. Congress, now in session will be asked to pass a law preventing dealers and manufacturers of liquor to ship goods into States where prohibition has been adopted. This proposed measure will be met by the strongest kind of opposition on the part of the powerful "whiskey trust" and its friends. In the law they see the entering wedge of a movement, that in time, may put them out of business.

Temperance is gaining friends every day; in a rational manner "whiskey" is being fought harder than ever. The "common people" are learning that the drinking habit is an unprofitable one. The Federal Government while accepting a high revenue on whiskey frowns on the official or clerk who drinks. "A recent general order issued to the employees on a large Western railroad as regards drinking and intoxication, which is even more stringent than those which are generally understood to apply to railroad men," said a government official recently, "calls to mind some facts regarding the general method employed in the departments in Washington in dealing with clerks and employees who are addicted to the habit."

"The good old days when the clerks could step out during office hours and partake of liquid stimulant and return to work have long since passed, and the general rule against drinking at any hour may be said to be more strictly enforced now than ever before; perhaps the broader term of intoxication will be more apt, for, luckily for the thrifty ones on the government roster, taking a drink is not yet a dismissal offense, as it is among the employees of some of the railroads."

"The tendency toward sobriety among government employees of all classes, from the army and navy branches, where officers are court-martialed and dismissed and the men severely punished for the offense, to the civil lists, where the employees are dismissed, is marked during recent years."

"It is infrequent nowadays that an employe or clerk is summarily dismissed for intoxication. In two or three of the departments physicians are regularly employed who visit suspected cases of derelict clerks."

Tales Worth Telling

On his homeward trip by trolley a tired business man was much annoyed by the conduct of three middle-aged ladies who stood near him. They were evidently just returning from a summer tour. All the seats in the car were occupied, but they seemed determined that he should offer one of them his seat.

He screened himself behind his paper and listened to plainly audible remarks about the decline of gallantry in the present age. This grated on his nerves, so he arose, and with a profound bow, addressed the three.

"Will the oldest of you ladies honor me by accepting my place?"

Whereupon they became interested in the advertisements over the windows and the man triumphantly resumed his seat.

HE KNEW.

An Irishman out of work applied to the "boss" of a large repair shop in Detroit. When the Celt had stated his sundry and divers qualifications for a "job," the superintendent began quizzing him a bit. Starting quite at random, he asked:

"Do you know anything about carpentry?"

"Shure!"

"Do you know how to make a Venetian blind?"

"Shure!"

"How would you do it?"

"Shure, I'd poke me finger in his eye."

BEGINNING EARLY.

A mother in Camden entered the room and found her two children quarreling about a doll. She said:

"You must stop that quarreling or I'll take the doll away."

"We ain't really quarrelling ma," said one of the little girls, "we're playing Jennie's suing me for divorce and we're trying to decide who'll have the custody of the child."

INVENTOR OF PROSPERITY.

A number of men on the street were having a discussion as to who was the greatest inventor. Some said Edison, some Watt, some Morse, some one and some another. Finally a pawnbroker got in a word and said:

"Veil, chentlemen, dose vas greed peoples, but I tella you dot man vot invented interest vas no slouch."

NEEDED.

A little Southern girl was sent to a boarding school in New York. When taken for a walk she seemed to be much interested in watching the automobiles. After a while she pointed to the extra tires on the passing machines and timidly inquired:

"Why do they carry life-preservers?"

LIBERALITY.

One morning last week a missionary worker was soliciting contributions toward helping the work along. Stopping at a house in the lower section of the city she pulled the bell, which was answered by a sickly looking woman.

"Can you contribute anything for the drunkard's home?" she asked of the woman whom she had summoned to the door.

"Yes," replied the woman "come around next Saturday night and get my husband."

SELF DENIAL.

It was beginning to rain and a man who was on the point of starting for church discovered that there wasn't an umbrella in the house fit for use.

"You can borrow one from the T—a next door," suggested his better half; "they never go to church."

"No, Laura," he answered, with firmness; "it is wrong to borrow umbrellas on Sunday. I shall punish myself for my carelessness by not going to church this morning."

HELD UP.

A countryman from New Jersey went to New York to see the sights. Coming to the Metropolitan Museum he was amazed to find that the admission to this splendid building cost nothing. He mounted the steps and entered.

"Your umbrella, sir," said a uniformed official, extending his hand. The countryman jerked back his umbrella and turned on his heel.

"I knowed there was some cheat about it when ye got in free," he said.

and these visits and the warnings which accompany them have a most wholesome effect upon the backsliding clerks. And then, most of the clerks feel that it is put up to them personally to walk the straight and narrow path which leads to the disbarment officer's room twice a month, and it is this personal impulse as much as any other inducement which causes them to hew close to the chalk line of official displeasure.

"Taken all in all, the usual official course pursued is one conducive to a general betterment of the service and a material advancement of the cause of temperance, and considering the great army corps of workers in the city, of all temperaments and degrees of men, the suspensions and dismissals for the cause mentioned are very few, and each year are growing less."

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